

Mental Health Consultation in Child Care Centers

Recent studies have confirmed that more young children are exhibiting challenging behaviors, and families with children in child care are experiencing more stress. Child care centers and family homes that have an OKDHS subsidy contract may receive on-site professional consultation on a regular basis upon request through the [Child Care Warmline, 1-888-574-5437](tel:1-888-574-5437). Child Care consultation seeks to accomplish one or more of the following goals:

- To maintain children in child care who are in danger of being expelled.
- Support staff that care for children by expanding their competencies in understanding challenging behavior.
To be available to caregivers and families in times of stress or crises.
- To model positive behavior and guidance techniques to encourage positive social and emotional development.
- To connect staff and families to resources. Offer observation and referral when necessary.
- To be available to families of children in child care through consultation and parent meetings.

The Child Care Warmline and Consultation service is provided in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.